

WASHINGTON – Today, Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-OR), a senior member of the House Budget and Ways and Means Committees, announced that he would black out his Congressional website this afternoon in support of Internet freedom and in solidarity with online businesses and innovators against the Stop Online Piracy Act (SOPA) and the Protect IP Act (PIPA).

“Today I am joining the millions of Americans who are standing with the world’s most innovative websites against the proposed censorship of PIPA and SOPA,” Blumenauer said. “This misguided, overly-broad legislation would curb the innovation of the small start-up companies thriving in Oregon, while stifling the free flow of information that is one of the fundamental principles of both the Internet and our great nation.

“The best way to fight online piracy is through smart, targeted legislation that captures only those websites that are breaking the law. With jobs and free speech on the line, the stakes are too high for us to rush through broad legislation that does not meet our objectives.”

Blumenauer’s Congressional website will go dark from 12:00 to 1:00 PM PST. Contact information will still be available for constituents in need of services.

